

CREATE A FLOWERBED

Here is a good task for everyone; yes even you rufty-tufty boys that think flowers are for girls. For practical application, making a house look good with a flowerbed improves curb appeal and helps sell a house. It also makes your wife happy, so one day this skill will be put to good use, I suspect.

FLIP OVER FOR YOUR NEXT CHALLENGE



EARN THIS NUGGET

Create a little slice of horticultural heaven in your front yard and bring tears to your parent's eyes (in a good way).

LEVEL K

PERIOD 3

TASK 1

So, to make a good flowerbed, or flower garden, here are some considerations:

1. Start small; don't bite off more than you can chew. I'm just saying, there is some work involved in this.
2. Select an area that is appropriate. Aesthetically it will look good, and it will get some good sun.
3. Draw it out. Most things are only as good as the plan, so draw it out on paper first, everything from the shape of the garden, the plants--perhaps go to the garden center and select some plants. Make sure you consider color, how big they will grow, how much sunshine they should have, and when they bloom etc.
4. Consider any other elements, perhaps you want a couple of large rocks in the bed or a birdbath. Will there be enough room?
5. Good soil is always a good idea, compost will help too and anything else that adds good nutrition to the soil.
6. Consider laying down a barrier to prevent weeds from growing. This can drastically reduce maintenance while locking in moisture. This inexpensive sheeting prevents weeds from sprouting, you cut the holes only where you want the plants to be and then, traditionally cover with mulch.
7. To Mulch or not to Mulch, and when is too much mulch simply too much, are all questions you need to decide as you create your thing of beauty. But do remember mulch looks good, adds nutrients, repels bugs (with some types of mulch) and helps lock in moisture.

